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(Original Signature of Member)

116TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. _____

To authorize the Secretary of Education to make grants to support fire
safety education programs on college campuses.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. PASCRELL introduced the following bill; which was referred to the
Committee on _____

A BILL

To authorize the Secretary of Education to make grants
to support fire safety education programs on college cam-
puses.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Campus Fire Safety
5 Education Act of 2019”.

1 **SEC. 2. PURPOSE.**

2 The purpose of this Act is to help provide fire safety
3 education and training to students attending institutions
4 of higher education.

5 **SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.**

6 In this Act:

7 (1) **ADMINISTRATOR.**—The term “Adminis-
8 trator” means the Administrator of the United
9 States Fire Administration of the Federal Emer-
10 gency Management Agency.

11 (2) **ELIGIBLE ENTITY.**—The term “eligible enti-
12 ty” means an institution of higher education, or con-
13 sortium of institutions of higher education located in
14 the same State, in a collaborative partnership with
15 a nonprofit organization or a public safety depart-
16 ment. Such a collaborative partnership may also in-
17 clude a social fraternity or sorority exempt from tax-
18 ation under section 501(a) of the Internal Revenue
19 Code of 1986, the active membership of which con-
20 sists primarily of students enrolled at the institution
21 or institutions.

22 (3) **FIRE SAFETY EDUCATION PROGRAM.**—The
23 term “fire safety education program” means a pro-
24 gram that provides fire safety and prevention activi-
25 ties.

1 (4) INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION.—The
2 term “institution of higher education” has the
3 meaning given to such term in section 101 of the
4 Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1001).

5 (5) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means
6 the Secretary of Education.

7 **SEC. 4. ESTABLISHMENT OF THE CAMPUS FIRE SAFETY**
8 **EDUCATION COMPETITIVE GRANT PROGRAM.**

9 (a) AUTHORIZATION OF GRANT PROGRAM.—From
10 the amounts appropriated under section 7, the Secretary,
11 in consultation with the Administrator, shall establish a
12 grant program to award grants, on a competitive basis,
13 to eligible entities for—

14 (1) initiating, expanding, or improving fire safe-
15 ty education programs at institutions of higher edu-
16 cation; and

17 (2) increasing fire safety awareness among stu-
18 dents enrolled at such institutions, including stu-
19 dents living in off-campus housing.

20 (b) APPLICATION.—To seek a grant under this Act,
21 an eligible entity shall submit an application to the Sec-
22 retary at such time, in such manner, and containing such
23 information as the Secretary may require.

24 (c) SELECTION PRIORITY.—In making grants under
25 this Act, the Secretary shall give priority to eligible enti-

1 ties that plan to use grant funds to initiate, expand, or
2 improve fire safety education programs that include edu-
3 cational material specifically prepared for students with
4 disabilities.

5 (d) GRANT PERIOD.—Grants under this Act shall be
6 awarded for not longer than a 2-year period, and may be
7 renewed for an additional 2-year period, at the Secretary's
8 discretion.

9 (e) GRANT SIZE.—

10 (1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraph (2),
11 the Secretary shall ensure that grants awarded
12 under this Act are of sufficient size and scope to en-
13 able eligible entities to carry out all required activi-
14 ties and otherwise meet the purpose of this Act.

15 (2) MAXIMUM AMOUNT.—An eligible entity may
16 not be awarded more than \$250,000 per fiscal year
17 under this Act.

18 (f) MATCHING REQUIREMENT.—An eligible entity re-
19 ceiving a grant under this Act shall provide non-Federal
20 matching funds in an amount equal to not less than 25
21 percent of the costs of the activities for which assistance
22 is sought. Such non-Federal matching funds may be in
23 cash or in-kind.

24 (g) SUPPLEMENT NOT SUPPLANT.—Funds made
25 available under this Act shall be used to supplement, not

1 supplant, other Federal, State, or private funds that would
2 otherwise be expended to carry out fire safety education
3 programs.

4 **SEC. 5. REQUIRED USES OF FUNDS.**

5 (a) REQUIRED USES OF FUNDS.—An eligible entity
6 receiving a grant under this Act shall use grant funds to
7 initiate, expand, or improve a fire safety education pro-
8 gram that—

9 (1) in the case of an eligible entity that is an
10 institution of higher education, reaches, to the ex-
11 tent practicable, all students enrolled in the institu-
12 tion of higher education, including students living
13 on-campus and off-campus;

14 (2) is carried out in a manner to ensure max-
15 imum exposure to, increase awareness of, and effec-
16 tuate change in behavior with respect to fire safety
17 by students through—

18 (A) conducting outreach to students at a
19 minimum of twice per academic year (at the be-
20 ginning of the fall and spring semesters, or the
21 equivalent); and

22 (B) measures that provide fire safety infor-
23 mation to any student upon the request of the
24 student;

1 (3) includes minimum instruction with respect
2 to—

3 (A) awareness of fire behavior;

4 (B) mechanisms of fire injury and death;

5 (C) common ignition scenarios;

6 (D) fire safety systems such as automatic
7 fire sprinklers;

8 (E) fire alarms;

9 (F) fire extinguishers;

10 (G) importance of means of egress;

11 (H) fire prevention techniques that may
12 prevent a fire from occurring (such as candle
13 safety, cooking safety, and smoking safety); and

14 (I) fire safety actions to be taken if a fire
15 occurs to minimize the potential for death, in-
16 jury, and property damage (such as knowing
17 how to use a fire extinguisher, how to put out
18 a cooking fire, calling 911, and evacuating);
19 and

20 (4) includes a mechanism for carrying out the
21 evaluations described in subsection (b).

22 (b) EVALUATIONS.—Not later than 6 months after
23 the end of an eligible entity's grant period, the eligible en-
24 tity shall—

1 (1) conduct an evaluation on the effectiveness
2 of the program carried out by the eligible entity in
3 increasing awareness or improving fire safety behav-
4 ior at such eligible entity; and

5 (2) prepare and submit to the Secretary a re-
6 port on the results of the evaluation conducted by
7 the entity.

8 **SEC. 6. REPORTS.**

9 (a) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—Not later than 12
10 months after the date of receipt of the first report sub-
11 mitted pursuant to section 5(b)(2) and annually there-
12 after, the Secretary shall provide to Congress a report that
13 includes the following:

14 (1) The number and types of eligible entities re-
15 ceiving assistance under this Act.

16 (2) The fire safety education programs being
17 implemented with assistance under this Act and the
18 costs of such programs.

19 (3) Any other information determined by the
20 Secretary to be useful in evaluating the overall effec-
21 tiveness of the program established under this Act in
22 improving the fire safety knowledge of college stu-
23 dents.

24 (b) BEST PRACTICES REPORT.—The Secretary, in
25 consultation with the Administrator, shall use the infor-

1 mation provided under subsection (a) to publish a report
2 of best practices for initiating, expanding, or improving
3 fire safety education programs that shall be made avail-
4 able to all institutions of higher education and other inter-
5 ested parties.

6 **SEC. 7. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

7 There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out
8 this Act \$15,000,000 for each of the fiscal years 2020
9 through 2024.